



Worcester City, with the three trophies they won last season, including the Worcestershire Senior Cup. Back row: Gary Stevens, Barry Williams, Graham Selby, Roger Southall, Kevin Tudor, Paul Bevan, Jim Cumbes, Mark Chambers, Alan Willis, Tony Billingham, Billy Telford, Gary Wright, Steve Crompton, Malcolm Phelps. Middle row: Graham Oakey, Trevor Francis, Graham Newton (coach), Nobby Clark (manager), George Goode (chairman), John Gilliard (physio), Barry Lowe, Brian Beresford. Front row: Andy Reece, Eric Bowen, Jim Ritchie, Glynn Bagnall.

Liverpool conquerors

WORCESTER City can rightly claim to hold one unique record in English football — that of a 100 per cent success rate against Liverpool in the F.A. Cup. They played them once and won once.

That remarkable triumph came in 1958/59 when Liverpool were a struggling First Division club. Worcester, then in the Southern League, won this third round match 2-1 to enter the last 32 for the only time in their history.

In the next round Worcester went out 2-0 to Sheffield United to end an historic cup run.

Worcester have not lost the habit of causing upsets. Two seasons ago they recorded a shock 2-0 victory at Plymouth and only went out to Newport in a replay after drawing away.

Strongest

They are without doubt one of the strongest sides in non-league football — their third place in the Alliance Premier League last season — is evidence of that. However they have made a shaky start to this season's programme, despite recently signing a number of players with Football League experience.

The major newcomer is Steve Crompton, a former Wolves and Hereford striker, signed on for £4,000. He joins ex Coventry defender Graham Oakey and Paul Bevan who played 200 games as a central defender for Shrewsbury, Swansea and Crewe.

But Worcester's best known player is the former Aston Villa goalkeeper Jimmy Cumbes, who also played for West Bromwich Albion and Coventry City.

But Cumbes is probably just as well known for his feats on the cricket field. As a fast bowler he played for Lancashire and Surrey

before joining Worcestershire.

Because of cricket commitments — a tour to the West Indies with his county — Cumbes has missed the greater part of the season so far but will play tomorrow.

To reach this far Worcester have disposed of Malvern Town (after a replay), Llanelli and Barry (also after a replay).

They have never met Wycombe before. Indeed their only match against an Isthmian League side occurred last year when Tooting and Mitcham beat them in the F.A. Trophy.